



PATENT

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

(Our Case No. 03-214-A)

In re Application of: )  
 )  
 Bao, et al. )  
 ) Examiner: TBA  
 Serial No.: 10/789,831 )  
 ) Group Art Unit: 1634  
 Filed: February 27, 2004 )  
 ) Confirmation No.: 8249  
 For: Label-Free Gene Expression Profiling )  
 With Universal Nanoparticle Probes in )  
 Microarray Assay Format )

Mail Stop MISSING PARTS  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner enter the following amendment.

An "Amendments to the Specification" section is on page 2.

A "Remarks" section is on page 11.